



Arizona Commission on the Arts

Arts Education Project Grant

Advocacy Tips

- ?? Invite your State Senator or Representative to announce your grant award at an event or performance and speak to the audience. Mail your invitation letter 4-6 weeks in advance of your event to request their visit. Coordinate this with Arizona Citizens for the Arts, 602-253-6535, <http://www.azcitizensforthearts.org/index.html>
- ?? Invite school board members to attend final events, workshop sessions, etc.
- ?? Have kids make posters or write letters to state legislators thanking them for their support of the Commission and public funding of the arts.
- ?? Arrange for an article in your local newspaper about the Arts Commission-funded programs in your organization.
- ?? Write an article for your newsletter or playbill about the Arts Commission's and National Endowment for the Art's roles in this program and the difference that public funding makes to the people served by your organization.
- ?? Hang a "Thank you Arizona Commission on the Arts" banner in your lobby
- ?? Look into opportunities to exhibit children's artwork at banks, libraries, city hall, airports and other public places.
- ?? Join AAAE the alliance of organizations and individuals supportive of arts education. Their goals in advocacy are to provide a united voice to support arts education programs at the local, state, and national levels. <http://www.artsed.org/>
- ?? Invite the Arizona Commission on the arts to present a workshop entitled "Parent Workshops, Valuing the Impact of Arts Learning". This short session is designed for parent groups at your school. It provides simple experimental ways to help parents identify and value arts learning for their children (and themselves!) The workshop also addresses advocacy for arts learning and arts learning resources. **To discuss your specific needs and interests please contact: Alison Marshall, Director of Arts Learning, amarshall@ArizonaArts.org, 602-229-8223**
- ?? Hold an awards ceremony to honor students, arts educators, civic leaders, administrators and/or elected officials that have been supportive of arts education. Invite an elected official to make a presentation and present awards to honorees.
- ?? Invite your school paper to assign a student journalist and photographer to cover your event and write an article about the event and the importance of the arts from a student's perspective.
- ?? If you are inviting parents and community members to your event, have every visitor sign a Statement of Belief related to the importance of the arts in your school. A sample statement might include: *"Our school community at [insert name of school/district] believe that every student in Arizona should have an education in the arts—dance, music, theatre and the visual arts"*. Take a long piece of butcher paper, write your belief statement at the top and encourage visitors to sign. Send the scroll to your elected official along with a thank you letter after the event.